

REMARKS

Claims 29-38 and 40-59 are pending in this application.

Claims 29, 40, 42-44, 46, 48, 53, 56, 58 and 59 have been amended by the present Amendment. Amended claims 29, 40, 42-44, 46, 48, 53, 56, 58 and 59 do not introduce any new subject matter.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Examiner rejects claims 29-38 and 40-47 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6, 8-20, 23, 25 and 26 of U.S. Patent No. 6,678,892 in view of International Application Pub. No. WO 00/38951 ("Mathias").

Applicants request that the double patenting rejection be held in abeyance pending disposition of the statutory rejections and possible amendments to the claims. If at such time, the Examiner maintains the double patenting rejection, Applicants will attend to responding to same. Accordingly, Applicants reserve the right to submit a Terminal Disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321 to obviate the double patenting rejection. The filing of a Terminal Disclaimer is not intended to be, nor should it be construed as, an admission as to the merits of the rejection.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of (1) claims 29-36 and 40-59 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,610,822 ("Murphy") in view of International Application Pub. No. WO 00/38951 ("Mathias"), and U.S. Patent No. 6,300,880 ("Sitnik"); (2) claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy in view of Mathias and Sitnik as applied to claim 29, and

further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,311,302 (“Berry”); and (3) claim 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy in view of Mathias and Sitnik as applied to claim 29, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,243,645 (“Moteki”).

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references, when taken alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a splitter connected to the audio bus, wherein the splitter splits the audio signals and provides the audio signals to both of the at least two wireless transmitters, as essentially recited in amended claims 29, 58 and 59.

For example, referring to Figs. 1A and 3, and paragraph 0071 of Applicants' disclosure, “[t]he audio signals from the input devices 190 are provided to a splitter 367 by the audio bus 172. The splitter 367 splits the audio signals so that the audio signals may be provided to both the first wireless transmitter 128 and the second wireless transmitter 130.”

In contrast to the claimed embodiments, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, either alone, or in combination, disclose the claimed configuration or the use of a splitter to provide the audio signals of the input devices to each of the two transmitters.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants maintain that amended claims 29, 58 and 59 are patentable over the cited references.

For at least the reason that claims 2-38 and 40-57 depend from claim 29, claims 2-38 and 40-57 are also submitted to be patentable over the cited references.

As such, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 29-38 and 40-59 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

DEPENDENT CLAIMS

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of all the dependent claims because Applicants submit that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as why the independent claims from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed, *supra*, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicants however, reserve the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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